

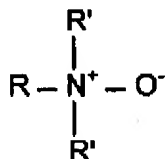
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for controlling the fluid loss in treating a subterranean formation which comprises treating said formation with a viscoelastic treating fluid which comprises comprising:

~~providing an aqueous viscoelastic treating fluid having:~~

an aqueous base fluid; and

one or more non-ionic amido amine oxide surfactant gelling agents having the formula:



where R is an alkylamido group averaging from about 8 to 274- 24 carbon atoms and R' are independently hydrogen or alkyl groups averaging from about 1 to 3 carbon atoms as the only gelling agents employed;

wherein said viscoelastic treating fluid further comprises a salt or solid, or and mixtures thereof;

wherein said treatment comprises

injecting the aqueous viscoelastic surfactant treating fluid through a wellbore and into the subterranean formation; ~~and treating the subterranean formation under conditions effective to control fluid loss, do so, where treating is selected from~~

~~controlling fluid loss where the viscoelastic treating fluid further comprises a salt or solid; and mixtures thereof; and~~

breaking the gel of the aqueous viscoelastic treating fluid subsequent to treating said formation.

2. (canceled).

3. (canceled).

4. (original) The method of claim 1 where the non-ionic amido amine oxide surfactant gelling agent is employed is present in the aqueous base fluid in a proportion from about 0.5 to about 25 vol. %.

5. (canceled).

6. (original) 7. (original) The method of claim 1 where the aqueous base fluid is brine.

8. (canceled).

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the breaking of the gel of the aqueous viscoelastic treating fluid is accomplished by a mechanism selected from the group consisting of contact with a hydrocarbon, contact with alkoxylated alcohol solvents, dilution, and contact with at least one reactive agent.

Claims 10-18 canceled.

19. (new) A method for controlling the fluid loss in a subterranean formation which comprises treating said formation with a viscoelastic treating fluid which comprises:
an aqueous base fluid; and
a gelling agent that comprises a non-ionic amido amine oxide, wherein said amido amine oxide is tallow amido propylamine oxide (TAPAO);
wherein said viscoelastic treating fluid further comprises a salt or solid, or and mixtures thereof;
wherein said treatment comprises
injecting the aqueous viscoelastic surfactant treating fluid through a wellbore and into the subterranean formation under conditions effective to control fluid loss,
and

breaking the gel of the aqueous viscoelastic treating fluid subsequent to treating said formation.

20. (new) The method of claim 19 where the non-ionic amido amine oxide surfactant gelling agent is employed is present in the aqueous base fluid in a proportion from about 0.5 to about 25 vol. %.

21. (new) The method of claim 19 where the aqueous base fluid is brine.

22. (new) The method of claim 19 wherein the breaking of the gel of the aqueous viscoelastic treating fluid is accomplished by a mechanism selected from the group consisting of contact with a hydrocarbon, contact with alkoxylated alcohol solvents, dilution, and contact with at least one reactive agent.